



**HOUSE MAJORITY OFFICE
SENATE MAJORITY OFFICE**

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Press Contact:

House Majority Office: *Lucas Bezerra*, Lucas.Bezerra@oregonlegislature.gov

Senate Majority Office: *Tess Seger*, Tess.Seger@oregonlegislature.gov

Jackson County Legislators Secure Major Investments to Expand Affordable Housing, Drug Treatment

Lawmakers deliver more than \$7.5 million in new funding to address urgent local needs

Jackson County, OR - Today, the Governor signed the Emergency Housing Stability and Production Package ([Senate Bill 1530](#), [Senate Bill 1537](#)) into law. Between this package and other legislation signed recently, including the Oregon Drug Intervention Plan ([House Bill 4002](#), [House Bill 5204](#)), lawmakers representing Jackson County in the Oregon State Legislature are celebrating more than \$7.5 million in new funding to address urgent local needs. These investments will go towards infrastructure upgrades for the development of affordable housing, upgrading emergency services, and expanding drug treatment.

“The critical level of homelessness in Southern Oregon kept my attention well focused in the short session that ended in March. The result, I think, was new funding that will deliver results folks in Jackson County will be able to see and feel every day,” said **Senator Jeff Golden (D - Ashland)**.

Major projects secured by lawmakers include:

- Funding the Radio Infrastructure Build Out and Modernization project for Emergency Communications of Southern Oregon (\$2,500,000) – *SB 5701*
- Improving water, sewer, and stormwater infrastructure to service developable property in the City of Phoenix (\$1.6 million) – *SB 1530*
- Supporting the Substance Use Disorder Withdrawal Management Expansion Project through Addictions Recovery Center, Inc (\$1 million) – *HB 5204*

- Constructing a regional stormwater facility to support the New Spirit housing development in Medford (\$945,000) – *HB 1530*
- Training more behavioral health care workers by funding the Master’s in Social Work program at University of Southern Oregon (\$666,667) – *HB 5204*
- Operating a sobering center through Addictions Recovery Center, Inc (\$500,000) – *HB 5204*
- Boosting housing development with water, sewer, and stormwater infrastructure in the City of Talent (\$300,000) – *SB 1530*

“This funding is a step in the right direction for our community. I want our constituents to know that we’re listening, we’re taking action, and the emergency investments we were able to secure this session represent our long term commitment to solving the homelessness and drug crises,” said **Representative Pam Marsh (D - Ashland)**.

Jackson County will also benefit from statewide investments aimed at improving connections between substance use disorder services and the criminal justice system so more Oregonians get the help they deserve.

- Grants to assist counties with setting up deflection programs that will connect Oregonians dealing with addiction to treatment services and prevent them from becoming involved in the criminal justice system (\$30 million) – *HB 5204*
- More staff and coordination for drug courts to divert those already involved in the justice system to treatment (\$9.7 million) – *HB 5204*
- Jail Medication Treatment for Opioid Disorder program and funding (\$10 million) - *HB 5204*

These new investments are part of the legislature’s statewide commitment to taking immediate action on the drug crisis, building more affordable housing, and sheltering the Oregonians living on our streets. The [Senate](#) and [House](#) Democratic caucuses prioritized these issues in their 2024 session agendas.

Senator Jeff Golden (D - Ashland) and Representative Pam Marsh (D - Ashland) represent Jackson County in the Oregon Legislature and worked to secure this funding for the community.

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